

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
SANTA BARBARA ELEMENTARY AND HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICTS
REGULAR MEETING
February 28, 2001**

CALL TO ORDER/CLOSED SESSION

The Santa Barbara Elementary and High School Districts' Board of Education met today in the Board Room of the Santa Barbara School Districts' Administration Center, 720 Santa Barbara Street, Santa Barbara, California. Claire VanBlaricum called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m., and adjourned to Closed Session. The public session was called to order at 7:13 p.m. Fred Razo, Santa Barbara High School assistant principal, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Claire VanBlaricum, President
Present: Robert Noël, Vice-President
Ruth E. Green, Member
Nancy Harter, Member
Fred Rifkin, Member
Beatrice Bellamy-Nunez, Student Board Representative

Staff Deborah Flores Ph.D., Superintendent
Present: Michael Couch, Assistant Superintendent
Robert Gonzalez, Director of Facilities and Operations
Charleen Kirkman, Controller
Julie Medina, Secretary to the Superintendent

EXPULSION HEARING

At 6:47 p.m., the Board convened in open session. President VanBlaricum announced that at the request of the parents, the expulsion hearing will be conducted in open session for case number 00/01-23.

Deborah Flores welcomed everyone present and explained that an administrative hearing panel has already been conducted, at which time evidence was presented and witnesses called to speak on behalf of the student. The purpose of this hearing is to give the parents and/or attorney, in this case, an opportunity to speak directly to the Board before the Board makes a final decision. She also indicated that the Board would deliberate in closed session as provided by the Education Code. Attorney Alan Karow spoke on behalf of the student, as well as Joan Esposito (Founder of the Dyslexia Awareness and Resource Center) and David Bearman, M.D.

Board questions followed. President VanBlaricum announced that the Board would be returning to Closed Session at the end of the meeting and deliberation on the expulsion would be done at that time. After deliberation, the Board would return to open session and announce the decision in public.

At 7:13 p.m., President VanBlaricum convened the meeting to the open session of the Regular Board Meeting.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board met on the following in Closed Session:

- **PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT (Government Code 54957)** *Personnel matters, to include: Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release.*
- **PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT (Government Code 54954.5): Superintendent's Contract**
- **STUDENT DISCIPLINE (Education Code 48918 and Government Code 54962)** *Expulsion Case No. 00/01-23. The Board must consider matters of student discipline in Closed Session unless the parent or student requests an Open Session.*

President VanBlaricum announced that no action was taken during closed session.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

■ **MOTION:** To approve the Minutes of February 14, 2001 (Regular Meeting).
Moved: Nancy Harter **Seconded:** Ruth Green **Vote:** Passed Unanimously

RECEIPT OF GIFTS

■ **MOTION:** To receive with appreciation the donation to the Santa Barbara Elementary School District and Santa Barbara High School District from Yardi Systems, Inc.
Moved: Fred Rifkin **Seconded:** Nancy Harter **Vote:** Passed Unanimously

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Marlyn Nicolas, Harding Elementary School principal, introduced Harding third grade student Ian Kirkwater, who played the cello, and second grade student Andrew Purwadi, who sang.

STUDENT BOARD MEMBER REPORT

Beatrice Bellamy-Nunez, Santa Barbara High School student, reported on current events at the three high schools.

CORRESPONDENCE

Ruth Green reported on an email she received from the California County Superintendent's Educational Services Association regarding materials adoption and \$2500 per teacher for training in reading and math.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Sarah Griffin thanked the District for putting the Board Agenda on the District's Website and requested that it be expanded to include the agenda attachments. She also asked that email be offered as an alternative form of notification, which would reduce mailing costs.

Bruce Rittenhouse addressed the Board regarding a recent letter to the editor from a student which talked about starting schools at 9:00 a.m., instead of 8:00 a.m. Mr. Rittenhouse reminded the Board that he had talked about this a year ago and staff was going to do research on the item. He requested that the Board again look into the matter and present the information.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Item B.2 was pulled for discussion purposes.

■ **MOTION:** To approve the Consent Agenda, as amended:

B.1 Recommended Personnel Actions

B.3 Warrants

B.4 Declaration of Miscellaneous Equipment as Surplus to the Needs of the Districts

B.5 Additional Fundraising Activities for the 2000-2001 School Year for Goleta Valley Junior High School and San Marcos High School

B.6 Acceptance of Completed Contract -- Electrical Repairs and Dimmer Installation for Santa Barbara High School Auditorium

Moved: Ruth Green **Seconded:** Nancy Harter **Vote:** Passed Unanimously

B.2 PURCHASE ORDERS

Staff responded to Robert Noël's questions regarding Purchase Order No. 11967 (Riverside Publishing for special education testing material) and No. 16961 (San Bernardino CECC for financial software) and to Ruth Green's questions regarding the Stewart Moving bills.

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education approve the Purchase Order Report for the period February 8, 2001 through February 21, 2001.

Moved: Fred Rifkin **Seconded:** Nancy Harter **Vote:** Passed Unanimously

C.1 BOARD POLICIES REGARDING REDUCING THE RISK OF LITIGATION REGARDING THE BROWN ACT AND PUBLIC RECORDS ACT

Robert Noël introduced the item stating that he had submitted recommendations and suggestions for Board policies in an effort to avoid future litigation regarding the Brown Act and Public Records Act.

Board discussion followed. It was determined that these items would be revisited during the Board Policy Update process.

C.2 DISTRICT-WIDE ALGEBRA POLICY

This item was rescheduled to the next Regular Board Meeting.

D.1 VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT -- IMPLEMENTATION GRANT

Joan Stuster gave a brief review of the grant and responded to Board questions.

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education approve the submission of a grant application, Arts Standards Development and Implementation, through the California Department of Education Visual and Performing Arts Grant Program.

Moved: Robert Noël **Seconded:** Fred Rifkin **Vote:** Passed Unanimously

D.2 ADOPTION OF BOARD POLICY 6142.6, ARTS EDUCATION

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education adopt Board Policy No. 6142.6, Arts Education.

Moved: Ruth Green **Seconded:** Nancy Harter **Vote:** Passed Unanimously

A five-minute break was taken at 8:20 p.m.

D.3 APPROVAL OF SCHOOL LIAISON PROBATION OFFICER FOR SANTA BARBARA HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Diana Rigby, Director of Student Services, gave a brief presentation on the High School District's Truancy Collaboration program, a multi-agency collaborative. Also addressing the Board were Tom Sneddon, District Attorney; Sue Gionfreddo, Chief Probation Officer; and Nancy Bratcher from Fighting Back.

Bruce Rittenhouse, Glen Mowrer, Joan Esposito, and Babatunde Fodayemi addressed the Board regarding missing components in the program such as advocacy for the students. They also expressed the need to find out why these students are truant as well as concern regarding the lack of assessment for those students with learning disabilities.

The following members of the public addressed the Board and requested that action be delayed on this item until a task force could come together to discuss alternative programs: Mirna Ramos, Ruben Rey, Rosalina Palacios, Etelvina Menchaca, Nancy Davis, Matt Sanchez, and Jody Kaufman.

Board discussion followed. It was determined that a task force would be organized to discuss alternative strategies for addressing the needs of student who are truant.

■ **MOTION:** That this item be postponed until the second meeting in April.

Moved: Robert Noël **Seconded:** Fred Rifkin **Vote:** Passed Unanimously

A three-minute break was taken at 10:28 p.m.

D.4 CÉSAR ESTRADA CHÁVEZ DUAL LANGUAGE IMMERSION CHARTER SCHOOL -- CONTRACT AMENDMENTS

Deborah Flores reported that members of the school's governance council have requested that the Board consider three amendments to the school's contract. Tom McGregor, presented the amendments to the Board.

Marty Blum, Santa Barbara Teachers Association President, stated that she wholeheartedly supports the school. She also stated that the financial problems experienced by the school are the result of the school being overstaffed. In addition, she stated that it was ironic that a school named after Cesar Chavez wants to pull out of the union.

Aaron Brown, recording secretary for the governance council, stated that according to his notes, this proposal was not passed by the governance council.

Board discussion followed. It was determined that the amendments would be taken back to the governance council for another vote.

D.5 ARCHITECT FEES -- SAN MARCOS AUDITORIUM RENOVATIONS

President VanBlaricum stated that this item had been removed from the last agenda as there was a request for further information and clarification. Robert Gonzalez, Director of Facilities and Operations, gave a brief history of the project and responded to Board Member questions. In addition, he corrected the amount of the purchase order to \$75,980, instead of \$39,232 as listed in the agenda. Board discussion followed.

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education approve Purchase Order 16835 for KBZ Architects in the amount of \$75,980.

Moved: Fred Rifkin **Seconded:** Robert Noël **Vote:** Passed Unanimously

D.6 CSBA DELEGATE ASSEMBLY VOTE

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education cast its vote for Claire VanBlaricum to fill the vacancy in Subregion 11-A of the California School Boards Association Delegate Assembly.

Moved: Nancy Harter **Seconded:** Ruth Green **Vote:** Passed Unanimously

D.7 NOTICE OF RECOMMENDATION NOT TO RE-EMPLOY ELEMENTARY CERTIFICATED EMPLOYEES

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education adopt Resolution 00/01-23.

Moved: Fred Rifkin **Seconded:** Ruth Green **Vote:** Passed Unanimously

D.8 FIELD TRIP -- DPHS/LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education approve Dos Pueblos High School's field trip to Las Vegas, Nevada, to compete in the Drumline and Colorguard Regional Competition, March 9-11, 2001.

Moved: Fred Rifkin **Seconded:** Nancy Harter **Vote:** Passed Unanimously

D.9 OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL AND EXPENSES IN EXCESS OF \$500

Deborah Flores pulled the request from the agenda for Santa Barbara High School representatives to attend the International Baccalaureate Seminar in Vancouver.

■ **MOTION:** That the Board approve the out-of-state travel and/or expenses in excess of \$500 for Ken Foberg, Dos Pueblos High School teacher.

Moved: Fred Rifkin **Seconded:** Robert Noël **Vote:** Passed Unanimously

E. COMING EVENTS

March 23, 2001 -- Annual fundraiser dinner for the Santa Barbara Public Education Foundation

F. BOARD COMMENTS

None

G. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Deborah Flores reminded the Board of upcoming special Board Meetings: City Council/School Board Joint Meeting (March 5), Master Planning (March 9). She asked that the March 9 meeting begin at 8:30 a.m. instead of 9:00 a.m., and that the scheduled budget workshop be held on March 28 at 1:00 p.m. instead of on March 19. The Board concurred.

ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED SESSION

The meeting was adjourned at 11:12 p.m. to Closed Session pursuant to Government Code 54957 and Education Code 48918.

OPEN SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION ACTION

February 28, 2001 (following Regular Meeting)

D.10 STUDENT EXPULSIONS

In Closed Session the Board discussed student expulsions. In open session, the following action was taken:

■ **MOTION:** Case Number 2000/01-23 (High School District) – That the Board uphold the Administrative Hearing Panel’s recommendation to expel for one school year but that enforcement of the expulsion be suspended and uphold the recommended rehabilitation plan, as amended (to only include 5 sessions of counseling and clean alcohol and drug testing through June). Student may return to original school. In addition, an independent/collaborative assessment of the student’s learning disabilities is required, with the results to be reported back to the Board within one month.

Moved: Ruth Green **Seconded:** Fred Rifkin **Vote:** Passed Unanimously

PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT (Government Code 54957)

■ **MOTION:** To send a letter of non-reemployment to a certificated employee. Notice will be given as required by Education Code 44951.

Moved: Fred Rifkin **Seconded:** Ruth Green **Vote:** Passed Unanimously

■ **MOTION:** To send release letters to temporary teachers (8) and probationary teachers (13), as submitted.

Moved: Fred Rifkin **Seconded:** Nancy Harter **Vote:** Passed Unanimously

There being no further business, the Meeting was adjourned at 12:01 a.m. The next Regular Meeting of the Board will be Wednesday, March 14, at 7:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

Claire VanBlaricum, President
Board of Education

Adopted by Board of Education on _____